

Read With Your Baby

How you read to babies and toddlers makes a difference in how ready they are to learn to read. As you read, engage them in the book.

Ask Questions: "Where is the kitty?"
Point and exclaim: "There's a bird!"
Ask them to find familiar objects:
"Find the doggie."

Which Books are Best for Early Talkers?
Babies & toddlers like books with thick, sturdy covers and pages; small size for little hands; bright, colorful pictures; simple geometric shapes; clear pictures with high contrast between objects and backgrounds; pictures of human faces; few words; nursery rhymes.

For toddlers, the story can be more involved, and pictures can have more detail; be about things they can relate to - animals, dressing, what they see and do; have rhyme and rhythm; have repeated phrases or or repeated happenings; be predictable.

Ask your librarian for the titles of books that you can your "Early Talker" can enjoy together!

How to Get the Most Out of Your Library:

- * Get a free library card.
- * Visit your library often with your children.
- * Get to know your children's librarian—a great resource!
- * Ask where to find alphabet books, fingerplays, nursery rhymes and other great stuff.
- * Check out armloads of materials to use at home.
- * Attend free storytimes and other library programs.

UTAH KIDS READY TO READ ADAPTED FROM EVERY
CHILD READY TO READ @YOUR LIBRARY
THE PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
AND
THE ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY SERVICE
TO CHILDREN
DIVISIONS OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

http://library.utah.gov/utah_kids/index.htm



Early Talkers Ages 0-2

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.

Why parents are so important in helping their children get ready to read:

- * You know your child best.
- * Children learn when they are in a good mood.
- * Children learn best by doing things and they love doing things with you. Take every chance you have to read with your child, tell and talk about stories, say nursery rhymes and sing songs.

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."
Emilie Buchwald

Ask your librarian for the names of appropriate books and library programs that you and your child can enjoy together.

Six Pre-Reading Skills your child can start learning from birth!



1. Print Motivation

*Begin reading books early—even newborns benefit from being read to. (Read to your children in your native language.)

*Let your child see you reading.

*Visit your Library often.

Children who enjoy books will want to learn how to read!



2. Vocabulary

*Talk to your baby.

*Answer when your baby talks to you. Ask questions—even if he can't answer.

*Speak clearly and use short sentences. Repeat yourself if your child shows interest.

Children with bigger vocabularies are better readers!



3. Print Awareness

*Let your child hold and play with board, cloth and bath books. Babies learn through touch.

*Point to words as you read them aloud.

*Read aloud as often as possible—it doesn't matter what is is, it's the reading that is the important part.

Children who are comfortable with print are better readers!



4. Narrative Skills

*Tell your child stories.

*Encourage your toddler to talk about things. Listen patiently and ask questions.

*Read favorite books again and again.

Talking with children about things develops comprehension skills that will help them understand what they read.



5. Letter Knowledge

*Letters are made up of shapes. Help your baby learn about different shapes as you play. (Say, "The ball is round.")

*Read alphabet books.

*Point out letters anywhere you see them.

*Talk with your toddler about what is the same and what is different.

Recognizing shapes and letters prepares children to read.



6. Phonological Awareness

*Say nursery rhymes often, emphasizing the rhyming words.

*Sing songs. In songs, each syllable usually gets its own note.

*Add actions to songs and poems.

*Make up silly, nonsense rhymes.

Being able to hear the sounds that make up words helps children when they are learning to read.